

Director, Chief Operating Officer, Mint; Kenneth R. Papaj, Director, Government Securities Regulations Staff, PD.

ALTERNATE MEMBERS: L. Paul Blackmer, Jr., Associate Director (Chief Financial Officer), E&P; Diane E. Clark, Assistant Commissioner, Financial Information, FMS; Jay M. Weinstein, Associate Director for Policy and Management & CFO, Mint; Thomas W. Harrison, Assistant Commissioner (Administration), PD.

DATES: Membership is effective on September 14, 1995.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Andrew Cosgarea, Jr., U.S. Mint, Associate Director, Chief Operating Officer, Suite 825, 633 3rd St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20220, (202) 874-6100.

This notice does not meet the Department's criteria for significant regulations.

Dated: September 6, 1995.

Andrew Cosgarea, Jr.,

Associate Director, Chief Operating Officer.

[FR Doc. 95-22800 Filed 9-13-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810-25-M

Customs Service

[T.D. 95-74]

Retraction of Revocation Notice

AGENCY: Customs Service, Department of the Treasury.

ACTION: General notice.

SUMMARY: The following Customs broker license number was erroneously included in a list of revoked Customs brokers licenses in the Customs Bulletin.

Matthew Adair—11820

License 11820, issued in the Detroit District, remains a valid license.

Dated: September 8, 1995.

Philip Metzger,

Director, Trade Compliance.

[FR Doc. 95-22905 Filed 9-13-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4820-02-P

[T.D. 95-75]

Retraction of Revocation Notice

AGENCY: Customs Service, Department of the Treasury.

ACTION: General Notice.

SUMMARY: The following Customs broker license number was erroneously included in a list of revoked Customs brokers licenses in the Customs Bulletin.

Karen L. Blanchard—10872

License 10872, issued in the Norfolk District, remains a valid license.

Dated: September 8, 1995.

Philip Metzger,

Director, Trade Compliance.

[FR Doc. 95-22906 Filed 9-13-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4820-02-P

Office of Thrift Supervision

[No. 95-174]

Notification of Change in Location and Hours of Operation for Public Reference Room and Securities Filings Desk

AGENCY: Office of Thrift Supervision, Treasury.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Office of Thrift Supervision (OTS) is giving notice of the change in location and hours of operation for its public reference room and the location at which official securities filings are to be made. These changes are being made to enhance access to the public reference room and the securities filing desk.

EFFECTIVE DATE: September 14, 1995.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Catherine C. M. Teti, Director, Records Management and Information Policy, (202) 906-7571, Office of Thrift Supervision, 1700 G Street, NW., Washington, D.C. 20552.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice serves to inform the public of the change in location and hours of operation for OTS' Public Reference Room and of the change in location for official securities filings made pursuant to 15 U.S.C. 78(i), 12 CFR 563d.1 and 12 CFR Part 563g.

Through a recent reorganization, OTS' Information Services Division, housing its Public Reference Room, has become part of the Dissemination Branch of the Records Management and Information Policy Division. In addition, the Securities Filing Desk previously operated by the Business Transactions Division has been integrated into the Dissemination Branch and now operates from the Public Reference Room.

OTS' Public Reference Room is now located on the lower level of OTS' headquarters office at 1700 G Street, NW., Washington, D.C. 20552. Visitors must check in with the guard on duty and must use the designated elevator for accessing the Public Reference Room. This procedure has eliminated the need for the scheduled escort service. The hours of operation for the Public

Reference Room have been expanded to 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. on business days.

Securities filings, comment letters and other communications with the Dissemination Branch may be hand delivered to OTS' Public Reference Room from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. on business days. In addition, delivery will be accepted by the guard's desk at 1700 G Street, NW. from 4:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. No other changes have been made in the procedure for making official securities filings.

Comment letters and other correspondence addressed to the Dissemination Branch may also be sent by facsimile transmission to FAX number (202) 906-7755 or, for documents exceeding 25 pages in length, to FAX number (202) 906-6956, from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. on business days. Neither facsimile machine is operable outside of these established hours. Securities filings must still be made on paper copies and delivered by mail or messenger.

Amendments to OTS' regulations at 12 CFR Part 505 to reflect the new procedures, addresses, and hours of operation outlined in this notice will be forthcoming in the next OTS technical amendments rulemaking.

Dated: September 8, 1995.

By the Office of Thrift Supervision.

John F. Downey,

Executive Director, Supervision.

[FR Doc. 95-22841 Filed 9-13-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6720-01-P

UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY

Exchanges and Training Program With the Newly Independent States

ACTION: Notice—Request for proposals.

SUMMARY: The Office of Citizen Exchanges, Division of Russia/Eurasia of the United States Information Agency's Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs announces a competitive grants program. Public or private non-profit organizations meeting the provisions described in 26 CFR 1.501(c)(3) may apply to develop training programs in (1) local government and public administration, (2) business administration and business development, (3) rule of law, and (4) independent media development for the following countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan.

Overall grant making authority for this program is contained in the Mutual

Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, Public Law 87-256, as amended, also known as the Fulbright-Hays Act. The purpose of the Act is "to enable the Government of the United States to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries * * *; to strengthen the ties which unite us with other nations by demonstrating the educational and cultural interests, developments, and achievements of the people of the United States and other nations * * * and thus to assist in the development of friendly, sympathetic and peaceful relations between the United States and the other countries of the world." The funding authority for the program cited above is provided through the Fulbright-Hays Act and the Freedom Support Act.

Programs and projects must conform with Agency requirements and guidelines outlined in the Solicitation Package. USIA projects and programs are subject to the availability of funds.

ANNOUNCEMENT TITLE AND NUMBER: All communications with USIA concerning this announcement should refer to the above title and reference number E/PN-96-16.

DEADLINE FOR PROPOSALS: All copies must be received at the U.S. Information Agency by 5 p.m., Washington, DC time on Wednesday, November 15, 1995. Faxed documents will not be accepted, nor will documents postmarked November 15, 1995 but received at a later date. It is the responsibility of each applicant to ensure that proposals are received by the above deadline.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Office of Citizen Exchanges, Russia/Eurasia Division, E/PN, Room 216, U.S. Information Agency, 301 4th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20547, tel.: 202-619-5326, fax: 202-619-4350, to request a Solicitation Package, which includes more detailed award criteria; all application forms; and guidelines for preparing proposals, including specific criteria for preparation of the proposal budget. Please specify USIA Program Specialist Jim Del Giudice on all inquiries and correspondence. Mr. Del Giudice may also be reached at the following e-mail address: jdelgiud@usia.gov. Interested applicants should read the complete **Federal Register** announcement before addressing inquiries to the Office of Citizen Exchanges, Russia/Eurasia Division or submitting their proposals. Once the RFP deadline has passed, the Office of Citizen Exchanges, Russia/Eurasia Division may not discuss this competition in any way with applicants

until after the Bureau proposal review process has been completed.

SUBMISSIONS: Applicants must follow all instructions given in the Solicitation Package and send an original and ten copies of completed applications to: U.S. Information Agency, Ref.: E/PN-96-16, Office of Grants Management, E/XE, Room 336, 301 4th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20547.

Applicants must also submit the "Executive Summary" and "Proposal Narrative" sections of the proposal on a 3.5" diskette, formatted for DOS. This material must be provided in ASCII text (DOS) format with a maximum line length of 65 characters. USIA will transmit these files electronically to USIS post overseas for their review, with the goal of reducing the time it takes to get posts' comments for the Agency's grants review process.

Diversity Guidelines

Pursuant to the Bureau's authorizing legislation, programs must maintain a non-political character and should be balanced and representative of the diversity of American political, social, and cultural life. "Diversity" should be interpreted in the broadest sense and encompass differences including but not limited to ethnicity, race, gender, religion, geographic location, socioeconomic status, and physical challenges. Applicants are strongly encouraged to adhere to the advancement of this principle both in program administration and in program content. Please refer to the review criteria under the 'Support for Diversity' section for specific suggestions on incorporation diversity into the total proposal.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Overview

USIA is interested in proposals that encourage the growth of democratic institutions in the NIS. The main areas are local government and public administration; rule of law; business management; and media. Proposals should demonstrate support for host-country institutions and should discuss what impact activities are expected to have over the long run. Proposals which build upon previous efforts and/or show significant cost-sharing will receive preference.

The projects may include: internships; study tours; short-term training; consultations; and extended, intensive workshops taking place in the United States or in the countries listed in this announcement:

We encourage applicants to design creative programs aimed at non-English

speakers both for in-country as well as for U.S.-based training projects. USIA is interested in proposals whose designs take into account the need for ongoing sharing of information and training. Examples include: "train the trainers" models; the creation of indigenous training centers; and/or plans to create professional networks or professional associations to share information.

Note: While this competition may fund programs in which American universities work with NIS counterparts, it is not intended to be a university linkage program. Such programs are funded by USIA's Office of Academic Programs (E/A) and proposals whose purpose is to exchange faculty or otherwise support direct academic links should be submitted under the E/A RFP for the College and University Affiliations Programs (CUAP).

Local Government and Public Administration

USIA is interested in proposals for training programs that foster effective administration of local and regional governments.

Programs in Public Administration for Kazakhstan will not be accepted.

Proposals are encouraged for the following themes/topics which have been requested by USIA's posts in Ukraine and Russia:

- **RUSSIA:** Projects that build the capacity of local institutions and that use Russian language materials are strongly encouraged. Proposals that show support from local administrations in Russia—city or oblast—will receive preference, as will proposals that demonstrate some basis for continuity—for example, those that build on Sister City relationships or other professional associations. USIA is particularly interested in exchange programs designed for regional legislators, in particular the oblast legislatures of Irkutsk and Buryatia. Programs that emphasize the practical ramifications of a federated system of government will receive particular consideration. Programs should involve exchanges and continuing consultations between counterparts, for example, oblast дума members and U.S. state legislators. Proposals should be very specific, emphasizing concrete, tangible results that leave something behind in Russia once projects are completed.

- **UKRAINE:** Priority will be given to programs on themes such as: setting up a civil service and the concept of merit-based recruitment; the relationship between government and business; how to create a business-friendly environment through local laws and practices; combating corruption in law enforcement officials; governmental

budgeting processes; taxation; privatization of government services; models of local government, including city manager, city council, county government; regional planning at multi-city, multi-county level; and administration of civic organizations such as library school boards, community centers. Ukrainian partner institutions might include the Institute of Public Administration in Kiev, the L'viv Management Institute, the International Management Institute in Kiev, or similar institutions.

Rule of Law

For all NIS countries, USIA is interested in proposals for parliamentary exchanges that offer a substantive professional visit to the United States for groups of elected legislators and their staffs, at both national and regional levels. Programs can be designed around a specific theme (e.g., budget and finance, legislative and parliamentary procedure, oversight of law enforcement) or can serve as a vehicle to develop relationships between parliamentarians and Members of Congress and state legislators. Direct contact with U.S. Members of Congress is a major goal of the program. Proposals for groups composed of deputies or a combination of deputies and professional staff are acceptable. A compelling program rationale should be given for projects mixing local and national officials in one group. Visits to state legislatures in the United States are encouraged. Particular care must be taken to coordinate participant lists with the American Embassy in the given NIS country. In general, the American Embassies will issue the formal invitations to parliamentarians to participate in a given program.

For Russia, USIA is interested in long-term internship-based exchange programs between Russian parliamentary staff members and their American counterparts. Such programs should expose staff members to the workings of a congressional office. Internships should be substantive and involve work both in Washington and in congressional districts and last approximately eight weeks, USIS Moscow would select English speaking participants for this effort.

For Kazakhstan, USIA is particularly interested in proposals involving the Parliament-to-be (elections should be held by the end of the 1995 calendar year). Programs beginning after March 1996 would be ideal for establishing contacts with the new parliament. Proposals should focus on the basics of and legislative procedures in drafting, debating, and passing legislation.

For Ukraine, USIA is interested in programs that offer training in the administration of local courts.

Business Administration and Development

USIA's definition of business development and administration is broad. It includes: small business development, resource development (housing, environment, energy), economic privatization and restructuring and agri-business development, including food distribution systems or the role of family farms. USIA is interested in projects that strengthen university business departments and provide management training for people already in the work place. In addition, the following USIS posts have expressed interest in the following specific themes:

- **UKRAINE:** Proposals are encouraged on the following themes: Business ethics; entrepreneurship; how to start a small business; how to promote business; and business curriculum development.
- **KAZAKSTAN:** Proposals should focus on management training for established professionals; particularly in those areas that are of importance to the future development of Kazakhstan. These fields include energy, industry, metallurgy, agriculture, mineral development, and small business development.

Independent Media Development

USIA is interested in media training proposals that focus on journalistic training, management of media organizations and foster independent media. Journalistic training in basic skills and concepts could include: effective writing, investigative reporting, objectivity, the clear labeling of editorials and opinion pieces, intellectual property issues and ethics.

Media management training (both print and electronic) should focus on management of media as a business: management techniques, desk top publishing, advertising, marketing, distribution, personnel, public relations, and the financial benefits and pitfalls of journalistic advocacy. USIS posts in the following countries have indicated their priority themes:

- **RUSSIA:** USIA is particularly interested in proposals to work with nascent media associations and wire services. Collaborative efforts with organizations such as (but not limited to) the newly-founded Association for Investigative Journalists and more established organizations like the Russian Association of Editors and

Publishers, the Glasnost Defense Fund, and the Globe Press Syndicate (GLOBUS) are encouraged. Proposals should build institutional capacity, increase the number of viable voices promoting the free flow of information, and enhance institutional ability to provide training and support.

- **KAZAKSTAN:** USIA is particularly interested in proposals that focus on the business of media and maximize the amount of practical, hands-on experience provided to program participants. There are many independent media outlets in Kazakhstan that are trying to make the transition to a market-driven news business, and the Agency is interested in proposals that promote the idea of journalism as a business. Training programs in news reporting, television production and the ethics of journalism are also encouraged. Priority will be given to proposals that contain both in-country and U.S.-based programming. Programs for non-English speakers will be given priority.

- **UKRAINE:** The following topics have priority: Ethics in journalism; straight news reporting; marketing and advertising in print and broadcast media.

Guidelines

Programs must comply with J-1 visa regulations. Please refer to program specific guidelines in the Solicitation Package for further details.

Proposed Budget

Organizations must submit a comprehensive line item budget based on the specific guidance in the Program and Budget Guidelines sections of the Solicitation Package. Proposals for less than \$150,000 will receive preference.

Grants awarded to eligible organizations with less than four years of experience in conducting international exchange programs will be limited to \$60,000.

Applicants are invited to submit an all-inclusive budget as well as separate sub-budgets for each program component, phase, location, or activity in order to facilitate USIA decisions on funding.

Review Process

USIA will acknowledge receipt of all proposals and will review them for technical eligibility. Proposals will be deemed ineligible if they do not fully adhere to the guidelines stated herein and in the Solicitation Package. Eligible proposals will be forwarded to panels of USIA officers for advisory review. All eligible proposals will also be reviewed by the Agency contracts office, as well

as the USIA Office of East European and NIS Affairs and the appropriate USIA post(s) overseas. Proposals may also be reviewed by the Office of the General Counsel or by other Agency elements. Funding decisions are at the discretion of the USIA Associate Director for Educational and Cultural Affairs. Final technical authority for grant awards resides with the USIA grants officer.

Review Criteria

Technically eligible applications will be competitively reviewed according to the criteria stated below. These criteria are not rank ordered:

1. *Quality of the Program Idea:* Proposals should exhibit originality, substance, precision, and relevance to Agency mission.
2. *Program Planning:* Detailed agenda and relevant work plan should demonstrate substantive undertakings and logistical capacity. Agenda and plan should adhere to the program overview and guidelines described above.
3. *Ability to Achieve Program Objectives:* Objectives should be reasonable, feasible, and flexible. Proposals should clearly demonstrate how the institution will meet the program's objectives and plan.
4. *Multiplier Effect/Impact:* Proposed programs should strengthen long-term mutual understanding, including maximum sharing of information and establishment of long-term institutional and individual linkages.
5. *Cross Cultural/Area Expertise:* Proposals should reflect the institution's expertise in the subject area and should address specific areas of concern facing countries involved in the project. Additionally, projects should show evidence of sensitivity to historical, linguistic and other cross cultural factors and should demonstrate how this sensitivity will be used in practical aspects of the program, such as pre-departure orientations or briefings of American hosts.
6. *Support of Diversity:* Proposals should demonstrate the recipient's commitment to promoting the awareness and understanding of diversity throughout the program. This can be accomplished through documentation (such as a written statement or account) summarizing past and/or on-going activities and efforts that further the principle of diversity

within both the organization and the program activities.

7. *Institutional Capacity:* Proposed personnel and institutional resources should be adequate and appropriate to achieve the program or project's goals.

8. *Institution's Record/Ability:* Proposals should demonstrate an institutional record of successful exchange programs, including responsible fiscal management and full compliance with all reporting requirements for past Agency grants as determined by USIA's Office of Contracts. The Agency will consider the past performance of prior recipients and the demonstrated potential of new applicants.

9. *Follow-On Activities:* Proposals should provide a plan for continued follow-on activity (without USIA support) which insures that USIA supported programs are not isolated events.

10. *Project Evaluation:* Proposals should include a plan to evaluate the activity's success, both as the activities unfold and at the end of the program. USIA recommends that the proposals include a draft survey questionnaire or other technique plus description of a methodology to use to link outcomes to original project objectives. Award-receiving organizations/institutions will be expected to submit intermediate reports after each project component is concluded or quarterly, whichever is less frequent.

11. *Cost-Effectiveness:* The overhead and administrative components of the proposal, including salaries and honoraria, should be kept as low as possible. All other items should be necessary and appropriate.

12. *Cost-Sharing:* Proposals should maximize cost-sharing through other private sector support as well as institutional direct funding contributions.

13. *Value of U.S.-Partner Country Relations:* Proposed projects should receive positive assessments by USIA's geographic area desk and overseas officers of program need, potential impact, and significance in the partner country(ies).

Notice

The terms and conditions published in this RFP are binding and may not be modified by any USIA representative. Explanatory information provided by

the Agency that contradicts published language will not be binding. Issuance of the RFP does not constitute an award commitment on the part of the Government. The Agency reserves the right to reduce, revise, or increase proposal budgets in accordance with the needs of the program and the availability of funding. Final awards cannot be made until funds have been appropriated by Congress, allocated and committed through internal USIA procedures.

Notification

All applicants will be notified of the results of the review process on or about March 1, 1996. Awards made will be subject to periodic reporting and evaluation requirements.

Dated: September 8, 1995.

John P. Loiello,

Associate Director, Educational and Cultural Affairs.

[FR Doc. 95-22908 Filed 9-13-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8230-01-M

NIS Secondary School Initiative Inbound Academic Year Placement

AGENCY: United States Information Agency.

ACTION: Amendment—Request for proposals.

SUMMARY: This is an amendment to the Request for Proposals (RFP) published September 7, 1995, beginning on page 46683 and ending on page 46685, concerning placement of students from the Newly Independent States (NIS) of the former Soviet Union who will be in the United States under the 1996/97 Academic Year Program of the NIS Secondary School Initiative (Announcement Number E/P-96-12). This amendment changes the day listed with the deadline date to Thursday, October 19. The RFP incorrectly says Friday, October 19.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Diana Aronson, NIS Secondary School Division (E/PY), Room 320, (202) 619-6299.

Dated: September 8, 1995.

John P. Loiello,

Associate Director, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

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